







## LOVE LETTERS IN AN IRISH ATTIC

**IRISH**  
By PAULA ARNOLD  
A WORLD OF LOVE. By Elizabeth

Miss Bowen is definitely what the English call a writer's writer, that is, she is in the very first place a writer, strong on style and education. As one may imagine, she therefore tends to be mannered, not to say pedantic, in writing about her sales figures, but I would bet my shirt on their being well below half of those of the *Illustrated London News*, the most successful of the great entertainment magazines, even though Miss Bowen's latest was first choice of the Book Society, an excellent incentive. She is not a caviar for the general, there can be no two ways about it. But is she caviar at all?

Whether Kafka and the French Symbolists influenced her, I do not know, but

ration not decisively, or whether, on the contrary, these dreary misogynists became so because the soil was ready for them, is moot point. A fact not to be gainsaid is the dreariness, the lack of any faith and enthusiasm in the world with its pleasant personal relationships, the saplessness and defeatism of the English post-war novel written by men and women acquainted as perfectly by the cognoscendi.

Reams are being written about Miss Bowen. Now even a poet who needs interpreters in his own country, much less in America, let alone a novelist. Not that Miss Bowen is exactly obscure ("arcane") is the fashionable

order, "I should rather call her *the* most beautiful creature I ever beheld! So are some of her characters, if not all in the group of four women portrayed with such striking clarity. The untidy, vivid, overblown, egotistic Antonia, owner of the more or less dilapidated country house in London, and the 12-year-old cousin Maud, a mischievous brat with a "familiar," non-existent playmate (the name of the playmate is lost in novels); the lonely, imaginative child has lately been portrayed several times in novels). The brat's comely, older sister, dreamy Jane, fall to come to the world we ever see clearly the one man in the piece, the unfortunate man who manages the world. It is a book based on the story of the spook Guy, the for-

mer owner who fell in France, is not made clear either. In the next we may say that Miss Bowen is miserably without all tangible information.

There is no story either. The whole turns on an original idea: Jane finds Guy's love letters in the attic, and in her own mind she starts to persuade herself that they are written to her. Each of the older women with some reason believes them hers: Lilla, Jane's mother, who is engaged to Guy, Antonia, because she had an affair with him. The idea Miss Bowen seems to have had was to prepare the un-awakened Jane for the world of love and imagination that comes in the next letters. In the very last sentence of the book she makes her fall in love with a man we

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Miss Bowen has sovereign command of the language, and has spicy humour and inimitable grace and many other things – but she disdains construction and 'artifice' and she has neither love nor pity for her fellowmen, a lack so frequent in so many modern English writers.



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1.00 Theatricals and Films. 1.40 Cont.  
1.40 News. 2.00 15 mins. of Cont.  
2.00 15 mins. Science. Studio. 4.00  
Variety Programme. 4.30 Opera.  
"Tales of Hoffmann" (Offenbach)  
4.45 Reunion. 7.00 "Gueta in the  
Studio". 7.15 Talk. 7.40 Folk Dances  
8.00 Questions and Answers.  
8.45 Reunion. 9.00 News. 9.08  
Hamvill and Melvish Make. 9.15  
Concert: Concerto for four Flutes.  
(Vivaldi). 9.30 Ballad. 9.35  
Concerto (Bruch). 10.10 Folk Dances  
(R). 10.45 Dance Music (R). 12.00  
Close.

**SECOND PROGRAMME**  
497. 485. 235. 246. 48.9 & 53.5 M.  
English News: 1.45 10.15 p.m.  
Flower Power. 11.00  
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& 699 M. 6:15 P.M. Programme for  
 7.30 P.M. News, 7.45 P.M. News  
 7.55 P.M. Ladinge, 8.00 Close Down, 8.45  
 Rumanian, 9.00 Hungarian, 9.15  
 Close Down.  
**KOL POOL LAGOLA (28.5 M)**  
 6.30 P.M. Africa Programme: Today  
 6.55 P.M. News, 7.35 Bible Reading  
 7.45 Song of Songs, 8.00 P.M. News,  
 8.15 P.M. 7.15 Close Down. To-  
 morrow: 7.30 P.M. News, South Af-  
 rican in Iran, 7.55 P.M. News, 8.00  
 P.M. Programme. Today:  
 11.15 P.M. Reading & News, 11.30  
 Song of Songs, 11.45 Close Down.  
 Tomorrow: 7.15 P.M. News, 7.30  
 P.M. News and Programme Highlights,  
 11.25 Spring Songs, 11.35 P.M. News  
 & Programme. (Males)  
**ARMY PROGRAMME (4.65, 210  
 & 230 M.)** Today: 8.30 Opening  
 Service, 8.45 Bible, 9.00 P.M. News,  
 Works by Elgar, Ravel & Shostako-  
 vitch, 7.50 This Week's Events,  
 8.00 P.M. News, 8.15 P.M. News,  
 The Week in the World, 9.15 Down


**MUSIC, 10.00** Close Down.  
**Variety**, 1.30 p.m. All Stars, 6.30  
 Music (R.N.). 7.00 Variety Programme.  
 7.30 Names In The News. 7.40 Satur-  
 day Review Programme. 8.30 News.  
 8.45 Folk Dances. 9.00 Dance Mu-  
 sic. 10.00 Close Down.

**R.C.G. GRESHAM BROADCASTS**  
 (18.79, 14.95, 19.42 & 25.15 M.): 6.30  
 7.00 p.m. Today's News, Parliament  
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 perature, News Talk, Press Re-  
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Friday, April 8, 1955  
Number 5712, — Ma'ariv 16, 1954

**A MEASURE of goodwill** seemed to inform Sir Anthony Eden's statement in the House of Commons this week in which he reaffirmed the obligation of Britain to the Arab states. But as the subsequent exchange of question and answer showed there seemed to be some uneasiness in certain parts of the House. Thus for example he repeated that Britain was joined with France and the United States in the Declaration. Does this mean that before help should come to Israel in circumstances covered by the accord, the three powers would have first to agree and concert action on the subject? If so this leaves room for very obvious dangers, especially since the attitude of France and the U.S. has not been defined even as explicitly as Britain's.

Were the pact to cease to be unilateral and become a clearly defined bilateral agreement between Israel and the United Kingdom, much ambiguity could be avoided. Sir Anthony Eden, however, seemed loath to go beyond the limits of the Tripartite agreement. He gave as his reason the fact that a step must wait upon a final agreement between Israel and the Arab states which Britain would then be prepared formally to underwrite and guarantee. This was hardly convincing since she has already signed agreements with several of the Arab states without waiting for this final settlement in the area and can, in fact, be said to be pursuing them with offers of pacts and other very material assistance.

In the meantime, in the same speech, the British Foreign Secretary stated three pre-requisites for peace between Israel and the Arabs. They were: a settlement of the refugee problem, of frontiers and the question of the Jordan waters. On all three of these subjects Israel's position has been made perfectly clear. Israel has often made suggestions for an equitable solution of the refugee question. As for frontiers, it is to be hoped that Sir Anthony's reference was not in any way connected with certain recent Arab utterances on the subject. The view here is that peace with Israel must mean peace with Israel as she is and not as others would want her to be. As for the Jordan water—Israel's far-reaching plan and constructive policy are on record. Incidentally in this connection it might be mentioned that while Sir Anthony Eden made the solution of all three subjects a pre-requisite for peace, the Johnson view is that they should be tackled one by one.

The dissociation of Britain from the exchange of letters between Turkey and Iraq which marked the drawing up of the pact between those two countries was also a positive gesture of goodwill which was welcomed in this country; but it does seem as though the improvement of the general position is still to remain purely in the realm of words.

Much indeed could be done by the West beyond what they claim they are already doing to bring about a reduction of tension. It is hard, for example, to reconcile the provisions of the Tripartite Agreement, which was Sir Anthony's point of departure in his speech, with the action of the United States, one of the pact's signatories, in arming the Arab states and so disturbing that balance which the British Foreign Secretary mentioned in his November reaffirmation but did not refer to on Monday last. Britain's agreement to re-arm Iraq also falls into the same category. So also the attitude of the Western powers in the two meetings of the Security Council which have been held recently make for some uneasiness. When the Gaza incident came before the Council, words of censure of Israel were uttered even before final reports had been received. When Israel brought glaring cases of Egyptian aggression before the Council on Wednesday it seemed only too happy to adjourn.

So long as the pursuit of the favour of the Arab powers so clearly turns judgment of the Middle Eastern situation away from a commonsense dealing with the situation, even the British Foreign Secretary's statement will fail to convey more than a modicum of assurance.

## After-Dinner Battles Over the Formosa Straits Ike Up Against China War Party

By JESSE EEL LUBIN

**NEW YORK.** — WHAT was last month reported as confusion concerning American policy on the defense of Quemoy and Matsu has become compounded by a couple of after-dinner talks in the White House. The President's division at the top level of the Administration on the danger of war and what should be done about it. The failure of President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles to state plainly whether or not the United States will defend the off-shore islands in the event of an attack by China has resulted in strenuous efforts by what is coming to be known as the "China War Party" to convince the President to take a stand for intervention.

He is under intense pressure by a group of powerful Republican Congressional leaders, notably Senators William Knowland and Styles Bridges, who are either supported or led by the Chiefs of Staff, definitely to commit the U.S. to the defense of Quemoy and Matsu.

As the month ended, the papers were filled with "scare" stories reporting that according to a "high military source," the Administration expects that Quemoy and Matsu will be attacked in April or May and that the attack will be a major one aimed at Formosa. The "high military source" turns out to have been Admiral Curney, Chief of Naval Operations and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who made the statements in an off-the-record dinner to a group of correspondents. His name was revealed, of course, by a correspondent who was on the selected list of invitees.

Admiral Curney's grim forecast was followed by a statement by Senator Knowland who said he believed that the U.S. must take the risk of World War III if necessary to defend the islands. Said Knowland, "The world should have learned by now that the road to appeasement is not the road to peace. That is only surrender on the installment plan."

**White House Counter-Attack**

By last week, the moderates in the Administration had be-

gun to counter the effect of the "scare" stories by giving their own "off-the-record" hints to correspondents. At another private dinner for another selected group of White House correspondents, an "authoritative administration source" disclosed that the President does not expect war in the Pacific in "mid-April or later." This authoritative source seems to have been Press Secretary James Hagerty.

The Associated Press has released a series of questions and answers with the "high administration source" as follows:

Q. "Are we going to have a war on April 15?" It is reported that on or about that date the military expected an attack on the Matsu Islands.

A. "That doesn't reflect the views of the Eisenhower Administration. We have no information as to whether they lack any evidence of a sufficient build-up at this time."

Q. "What is the possibility of the Formosa Straits?"

A. "That is a question for President Eisenhower. He makes the decision, under Congressional authority, on what constitutes an attack on Formosa."

Q. "And if the Communists attack Matsu or Quemoy?"

A. "The decision on U.S. action probably will come before actual attack. It hasn't been made yet. The current mood is that the U.S. depends largely on whether the attack is directed at Formosa or Matsu. What do our diplomatic representatives in the Pacific report?"

Q. "They don't believe Communists China wants to go into the Asia-Pacific conference at Bandung in mid-April while attacking the U.S. in the Formosa Straits?"

A. "Can Matsu and Quemoy be taken by Peiping Communists?"

A. "It would require a major attack. We don't think it would succeed."

Q. "Does that mean the Communists threat can be turned aside?"

A. "Yes. We don't think these islands will fall to the Communists—yes, yes, yes."

Q. "If Matsu is attacked, along with an air attack that includes Formosa, what would the U.S. do?"

A. "If the attack is directed at Formosa the U.S. would reply. We're committed to that."

Next day President Eisenhower, meeting with Congressional leaders, both Republican and Democrat, stated that he did not expect war in the Pacific in

the near future, that too much talk of war is not helpful to the cause of peace and that he will make the decision as to whether or not to defend Quemoy and Matsu should it be necessary.

**Test of Asian Policy**

It is not to be expected, however, that the pressure on Eisenhower that he take a stronger position will decrease. This is a supreme test of the Asian policy he has tried to follow since he took office. That policy has been, generally, one of disengagement from areas of conflict with China. It began in Korea with the signing of an inconclusive truce. It continued last year in Indo-China, where the President in his decision to let the French with air strength at Dien Bien Phu.

But in the case of Formosa, there can be no standing aside. The President still hopes, evidently, for a cease-fire in that area, for some arrangement whereby Chiang would be confirmed in his position in Formosa. But for a cease-fire, he knows that American allies in both Europe and Asia would be alienated by war in this area, and he has Democratic Congressional support, including that of Walter George, head of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for some sort of arrangement he would like to make with China.

There still remains the fact that we are now committed by treaty to defend Formosa in case of attack. That Peiping Communists that Formosa is a part of China and that it will be taken by force, if necessary, that China is hiding up her military strength, although there is a decided difference of opinion here over the significance of this build-up of U.S. Army intelligence evaluators do not believe the build-up to be of such scope as to indicate a major attack on the island.

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## THIS WEEK...

**Security** The Prime Minister warned that Israel's patience was not without bounds, following a new series of Egyptian mining and ambush attacks on Israeli convoys, killing two and wounding a score of others near Nahal Oz, opposite Gaza. The Security Council met on Wednesday to discuss Israel's complaints on the repeated Egyptian attacks and adjourned almost immediately to await a report from the Mixed Armistice Commission.

**Health** The Minister of Health announced that all children under three would be inoculated with the Salk vaccine from the U.S. National Polio Federation. The enforcement of the new rules governing hikes during hot weather was demanded after the death of a boy on a Negev excursion, during an early shower.

**Passover** Passover began on Wednesday evening and was marked by a record influx of tourists by air and sea. New immigrants enjoyed special communal arrangements and the majority, who were taken direct from ship to land, found Passover fare awaiting them in their new homes.

**Municipality** The five-man inter-ministerial commission, headed by Mr. S. E. Yeshaya, Jerusalem District Representative, took over the administration of the capital until this summer's elections, and immediately took steps to clean up the city as Passover tourist traffic took on unprecedented proportions.

## Points from Letters CIVIL MARRIAGE: PRO AND CON

As an ordinary rank-and-file member of the Jewish community here in general, and its observant part in particular, I would like to make a few remarks on "religion's place in democracy" against the background of the Marriage and Divorce Bill and Mr. Barak's hunger strike. Democracy is a much used and abused word today, and the majority vote per se is no infallible yardstick. Does Judaism have to justify itself and its existence before modern political concepts? To profess veneration for the "ethical splendour" of Judaism while trying to shape the Law to one's own liking and predilections does not seem a very honest and logical attitude. Judaism is a matter of discipline and obedience not less than a faith. As to the Barak affair, some people have tried to make rare-theory comparisons. That's simply not true. Ruth the Moabite was a proselyte and the Talmud reports actions of proselytes. Marriage is not just a (convenient) contract for cohabitation but a sacred bond. By marriage, a Jew builds a "faithful house in Israel" and establishes a new link in the chain of generations and for these reasons alone, marriage is neither a private nor a secular affair.

**F. HICENBERG**  
One cannot help being agitated by reading and debating the so-called "democratic" and "liberty-minded" individuals against incidents of religious intolerance in the Jewish people has submitted us to a severe discipline from the time of Abraham to the present. The mish-mash of divorce and marriage laws in the civil-minded democratic United States should be regarded as the part of religious law in our lives safeguards the sanctity of our personal existence, a condition which most of the people of Israel, observant or not, wish to continue to be present in our daily lives and the life of the country. Freedom of individual preference of law is one matter, but no Jew has the right to threaten the honour and security we enjoy under our ancient heritage. Our rabbis cannot force us to believe; our Barak shall not enter us to destroy.

**D. D. ADAMS**  
England is supposed to be the cradle of democracy, and yet when King Edward wanted to marry against the rules of the Church of England, he had to give up his crown and leave the country to marry. I RUBEN

I see that Israel marriage legislation has put the clock back with regard to the application of civil liberties. It comes as a shock that it should be endorsed by a people which itself has been exposed to the injustices of intolerance. It is high time that in Israel, as in all civilized countries, the State and religion should be separated.

**J. THOLA THILHANN**  
As the wife of a Christian who stood loyally by me and my country throughout our trials in the past 11 years, who went through trials, sorrows and was at my side and served in the Israel Air Force voluntarily, I feel hurt, offended and bitter at Dr. Warhaftig's speech in the Knesset. We couples mixed faiths firmly believed that Israel is the only place where we can live happily and bring up our children without psychological disabilities and lack of understanding. We didn't feel that we had left our nation; we believed that we had brought it help.

**HESTER KEVIN**  
So far the Israel Courts have proved to be of the highest judicial esteem, so why not refer all our personal affairs to them, too? Why should not civil marriage be parallel with religious marriage, as it is in many other countries? I am sure that a Civil Marriage Law would never impair the religious laws but would give the citizen an alternative.

**J. J. H.**  
A world of routine and red-tape. He made it as if he had been living, instead, in the world of Cortes or in the world of Alexander the Great. His appearance on the scene in our time is proof, in itself that human nature cannot, after all, be regimented or conditioned or domesticated or "fixed." He is enough, in himself, to throw out any such pestilent calculations.

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We express our heartfelt thanks, now that the festivities are over, to:

The Prime Minister's Office and Government Information and Civil Education Office  
The Ministry of Defense  
The Ministry of Labor  
The Ministry of Interior  
The Ministry of Communications and Israel Railways Management  
The Israel Police  
The Israel Army  
The Vard Report of the Histadrut  
Solei Bosh  
Beit Le Munkh  
Palestine Electric Corporation Ltd.  
Eli Tzoref, Gadi Zohar and Isaac Press  
Soldiers Welfare Committee  
Ex-Soldiers Organization  
Medical and Social Councils  
Mr. Evi Friedland, Stage Director  
Mrs. Gonda Berger, Stage and Set Designer  
Mrs. Gonda Berger, Stage and Set Designer  
Mr. S. Kaplan, Mr. Mordechai Kohn, Mr. Yonatan Carmel  
Workers' Chorus and their Conductors  
Israel Police Band  
The Brigade Band  
The Brigade Band  
Army Theatre Groups and the "Wayn So Group"  
Mr. I. Benda (responsible for landscapes) and Mr. I. Kup  
Mr. Salomon Adir (Salomon) — responsible for decorum —  
to all artists, actors, writers, stage hands, others who helped to organize the activities during the festival week and particularly during the parade and festival performances.

In the name of the Secretariat:  
S. A. Avriel, I. Ben-Zur, M. Gurlik, Kalman Keyth, Evi Shilach

## Wednesday's Press

### Passover Message for Egypt

**MOST** Passover Eve editorials dwell on the message of the holiday in our time, placing the stress on the meaning of freedom. Relations with Egypt, also a problem connected with Passover, came in for comment in papers. Michael Asrat, writing in "Davar" (Histadrut), sees no basic differences whatsoever between Egypt and Israel. Sooner or later the Egyptians will have to realize that they cannot solve their souring domestic issues by aggression. Notwithstanding the declarations of the "Minister for bragging," Saleh Salem, this is beginning to dawn on Cairo. "Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) notes that the Passover is being celebrated in an atmosphere of extreme insecurity and extends cordial greetings to the soldiers on the border.

"Ha'aretz" (non-party) comments on Sir Winston Churchill's retirement, praising his stand in defence of freedom and says that the British Prime Minister has been a true friend of the Jewish People and Israel. "Davar" also expresses warm appreciation for Churchill's identification with the Jewish people at the time of its greatest trials.

Sir Anthony Eden, says the paper, symbolizes a different generation and tradition. He did not always reveal understanding for our work here, and this was palpably felt during the Second World War, when we were trying to save European Jews from destruction. It has to be admitted, however, that Sir Anthony has lately shown more understanding and his approach has been more realistic. It is to be hoped that this positive attitude will be reflected in British policy.

**Maki's Refusal**  
"Kol Ha'am" (Maki) in an article headed "We shall not desert."

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## THE RETIREMENT

(with apology to Alfred Tennyson)

And the night drew nearer, and the sun  
Smiled out far over the autumn of his life  
And for a decade the monster he had vanquished  
Lay dead in a heap of shambles,  
And the time had come when another man  
Would have been content to enjoy his twilight rambles.  
But Sir Winston cried in his English pride:  
"Not for me the fate of a dotard  
That over a fireside nods —  
I shall never relinquish the helm,  
No matter how heavy the odds."

And the spirit said 'Ay, ay but the muscles made reply,  
'We are old, though not decrepit, bordering on eighty years,  
You must let a younger shoulder bear the nation's hopes and fears.  
Bow your head to Mother Nature, — none can disobey her summons —'  
And the lion then retired to a seat in the House of Commons.

ABRAHAM BIRMAN.

## TOYNBEE ON CHURCHILL

By ARNOLD TOYNBEE

THE slow-grower's career needs both fortitude and the high spirits that help fortitude to keep going; for it is likely to be a career of ups and downs and sudden reversals of fortune. Within a few years, the subaltern who had been educating himself at Bangalore, blossomed out into a celebrated war correspondent and author who sailed into the House of Commons in 1900 and into the Cabinet in 1908. Like a chameleon, Churchill had transformed himself from the laggard schoolboy into the precocious statesman, and the outbreak of the First World War seemed to crown his opportunity; for it found him First Lord of the Admiralty, and though he has been no war-maker, he has always had a seat for waging war, when war has come.

Yet, before the First World War was over, his very seat and ability had brought him under a cloud. He had had the vision to conceive of shortening the war by forcing the Dardanelles, and to get his bold plan put into execution, but he did not yet carry the political weight to insist that the operation, once undertaken, should be carried through unflinchingly. So the campaign failed, and Churchill's reputation suffered with it.

This was the beginning of a long semi-eclipse, which lasted, off and on, from 1916 to 1923, and was then exchanged, not for a fresh political triumph, but for the harder ordeal of being a voice crying in the wilderness. By the time when Churchill was in his early 50's, even a shrewd observer might have fallen into the trap of writing him off as a brilliant starter who had failed to stay the course. This would have been the inverse of the

earlier picture of Churchill as the slow-grower boy, and all the world knows, today, that this earlier picture is the true one. Fighting his lonely political campaign from 1904 to 1909 to rouse his countrymen to see and act; raised to supreme power at the outbreak of the war, he was voted out of office in 1915 before he had been given time to finish his titanic job; and then back in office again, he was condemned by fate to go through unending vicissitudes. Yet, when we look back over his life from the point through which it is now passing, we can see that these dramatic ups and downs have been merely waves on the surface, and that, underneath, all the time, the tide has been flowing the more surely, the more slowly Churchill is unmistakably one of those slow-growers who grow higher, and so on growing longer, than the ordinary run of people who travel through life at the average pace.

And so, today, Churchill is travelling forward, as he has always done, under his own power. In order to go on being himself.

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